

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. – 57. (Canceled)

58. (Currently Amended) A biodegradable tissue fixation device, comprising:

a first component ~~which is~~ having a porous structure interconnecting pores, and

a second component disposed in the pores of the first component, such that the first component is non-porous,

wherein the second component further forms a non-porous layer that substantially covers the device, such that the device is substantially non-porous prior to implantation into a patient;

wherein the second component has a higher rate of *in vivo* degradation than the first component so that, after implantation of the device *in vivo*, the degradation of the second component exposes the pores in the first component.

59. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 58 wherein the first component has a pore size of about 20 $[[to]] \pm 2000$ microns.

60. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 58 wherein the first component has a porosity of about 10 $[[to]] \pm 90\%$.

61. (Withdrawn) The device of claim 58 wherein the first and second components comprise polymers.

62. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 58 wherein one of the first and second components comprises a ceramic.
63. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 62 wherein the other component comprises a polymer.
64. (Withdrawn) The device of claim 62 wherein the other component comprises a ceramic.
65. (Withdrawn) The device of claim 63 wherein the first component comprises polymer and the second component comprises ceramic.
66. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 63 wherein the first component comprises ceramic and the second component comprises polymer.
67. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 58 wherein there is at least an 8 week difference between the *in vivo* degradation rates of the components.
68. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 67 wherein the *in vivo* degradation rates differ by about 12 months to 2 years.
69. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 58 wherein at least one of the first and second components includes a therapeutic additive.
70. (Withdrawn) The device of claim 61 wherein the polymers are bioresorbable.

71. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 58 wherein at least one of the first and second components comprises a polymer selected from the group consisting of poly(a-hydroxy acids), polyhydroxyalkonates, polycarbonates, polyacetals, polyorthoesters, polyamino acids, polyphosphoesters, polyesteramides, polyfumerates, polyanhydrides, polycyanoacrylates, polyoxomers, polysaccharides, collagen, [[and]] polyurethanes, and a mixture thereof.
72. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 71 wherein the polymer comprises a poly(hydroxy acid) selected from the group consisting of polylactides, polyglycolides, polycaprolactones, [[and]] polydioxanones, and a mixture thereof.
73. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 63 wherein the polymer comprises Polyglyconate B and the ceramic comprises tricalcium phosphate (TCP).
74. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 63 wherein the polymer comprises poly(lactic acid) and the ceramic comprises hydroxyapatite (HA).
75. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 63 wherein the polymer is formed by reacting *in situ* a reactive monomer or oligomer.
76. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 75 wherein the reactive monomer is selected from the group consisting of cyclic esters, cyclic carbonates, divinyl ethers-diols, and diisocyanate-diamine.

77. (Withdrawn) A method of making a biodegradable tissue fixation device, comprising forming a porous scaffold of a first component, and infiltrating the porous scaffold with a second component.
78. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 77 wherein the scaffold is infiltrated with a sufficient amount of the second component to render the device substantially non-porous.
79. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 78 wherein the infiltrating step comprises providing the second component in the form of a liquid.
80. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 77 wherein one of the components comprises a polymer and the other comprises a ceramic.
81. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 76 wherein both components comprise polymers.
82. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 77 wherein both components comprise ceramics.
83. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 77 wherein the infiltrating step comprises injection molding.
84. (New) The device of claim 58, wherein the non-porous layer is 0.050 inch in thickness.